Missions - Japan

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Work of the

American Board's Japan Mission

in connection with the

Kumiai Churches of Japan

1904-1905

A Special Edition

of

MISSION NEWS

June 24, 1905

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NOTES.

Just as the last number of MISSION NEWS issued from the press, May 27th, the rumors of the long expected naval battle began to make themselves heard. Our readers have already learned from the daily press the extent of the victory which those rumors presaged—one of the most impressive in history and suggestive of great changes in the relations of the Far East with Europe and America. We believe that in the main those changes will be in the direction of a more normal life.

* * * *

It may be that we as missionaries may feel ourselves hampered at times by the rapidly growing consciousness of strength on the part of the Japanese people, which the Christians will inevitably share with their non-Christian countrymen, but we must adjust ourselves to the situation as best we can, remembering that like our Master, we come "not to be ministered unto but to minister." Unless we can content ourselves with such an auxiliary relationship, we shall deserve to have a hard time.

In such a relationship we shall find scope for the best that is in us and may confidently hope for fruit in which we may take unending satisfaction, although we may not be able to measure out with definiteness our own particular share. In this respect we shall stand, if faithful, with most others who have aided the great world movements.

* * * *

Seijiro Niwa, Esq., for many years the Secretary and chief executive of the National Young Men's Christian Association of Japan has been elected Principal of the Dōshisha. Until this election, Kotaro Shimomura, Esq., has served both as Principal and as President of the Board of Trustees, but has been forced by certain business obligations to give up the position of Principal, much to the regret of all. He retains the presidency of the Board of Trustees.

* * * *

Since a change must be made, the Trustees turned with entire unanimity to Mr. Niwa. It was no small sacrifice for him to break his connection with the Young Men's Christian Association at this time when its work has assumed such prominence in the eyes of the nation and when it finds need for all the wisdom of its most experienced officers. Under ordinary circumstances, this sacrifice would not have been asked; for the Dōshisha Trustees yield to no one in their high appreciation of Mr. Niwa's services for the Young Men of Japan nor in their desire to see the work of the Young Men's Christian Association carried forward energetically upon the lines now marked out for it.

Naturally Mr. Niwa was released with great reluctance, but none the less with a cordiality which the friends of the Dōshisha gratefully appreciate.

* * * *

Mr. Bennett has been granted a three months furlough and will shortly leave for home. He expects to return early in October.

MISSION NEWS.

A JOURNAL OF RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL PROGRESS; WITH ESPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE WORK OF THE AMERICAN BOARD IN JAPAN.

(明治三十三年十二月二十六日第三種郵便物認可　毎月一回第四土曜日發行)

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Annual Report of the Work of the American Board's Mission in Connection with the Kumiai Churches of Japan. May, 1904.

INTRODUCTION.

The aim of the editor of this report has been to present a brief, readable account of the mission work for the past year and to show its actual condition at the present time. With this end in view minor details have been omitted or fused into a general picture while other details that would be of interest only to those who are closely connected with the mission have been gathered in special items or tables at the end.

It should also be clearly understood by all who read this report that it has been and is the settled policy of the American Board Mission in Japan to build up Christian churches that shall, as soon as possible, become entirely independent of mission aid. As a result of this policy there has grown up a body of Kumiai or Congregational Churches. It is with great pleasure and keen satisfaction that we see the number of these churches constantly growing and taking upon themselves the carrying forward of Christian work in Japan. While some references are made in this report to these churches and their work it must be borne in mind that these churches, though largely the direct result of mission work, are, in most instances, entirely self-supporting and always self-directing, having no connection with the mission save that of friendly co-operation. In a great many instances, however, the work of these churches and that of the American Board Mission is so closely related as to be practically inseparable. Hence the references in this report above referred to.

The report is presented under four general heads,—I. The war and work among the soldiers; 2. The general evangelistic work; 3. The educational work; 4. Work along social lines.

THE WAR AND WORK AMONG THE SOLDIERS.

The one topic of all absorbing interest during the past year has been the war. It has entered into every sphere of activity, permeated all classes of people, and formed the background and setting of national and individual thought and life. No report of anything connected with Japan during the past year would be complete without copious reference to the war and, as far as our mission work is concerned, it has been the chief factor in modifying and directing the course of its activity during the past year. Hence the war, and what has grown and is growing out of it, takes the first and largest place in this report.

Here there are three points to which attention is specially called.

Interference with the Work.—In some parts of the mission, at the very beginning of the war, considerable suspicion of the Christians was manifested in many ways by intensely patriotic but non-Christian Japanese. This seemed to come from the fact that Russia was spoken of as a Christian nation while Japan was not. Hence all Christians must be Russian sympathisers and might even be giving secret aid to the Russians. This feeling of suspicion, however, was quickly dispelled by the earnestness and zeal with which the churches and church-members entered into the Red Cross work and all forms of work for the soldiers.

A far greater and more serious interference with the mission work has come from the calling into the army of many of the church-members, teachers in the schools, evangelists, and pastors. This, of course, has weakened many of the churches, especially the smaller ones, not only as regards their resident membership but also in a financial way. Some churches that were planning to erect buildings of their own must now wait till some future time, while others, that were nearing the point of entire self-support, must still continue to receive aid, probably

In a Military Hospital.

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for several years to come. This, however, is but a temporary interference with the work and part of the sacrifice which the churches, in common with all other companies of people, are rightly called upon to make for the country. The sacrifice, though willingly and gladly borne, is still keenly felt and many forms of Christian and philanthropic work will feel its effects for several years.

Benefits to the Work.—But the interference that has been caused by the war, with mission and Christian work, though keenly felt, is largely temporary in its nature and is far outweighed by the benefits to the work arising from the war. These latter are far-reaching and largely permanent in their nature. It would be hard to single out any one of them and say it was greater than all the others but two at least are very marked. One is the opening of the army to Y. M. C. A. work.

In a very true sense of the words, when you touch the Japanese army you touch the Japanese people. The Japanese give great honor to at least two classes of people,—to scholars of recognised ability and to military or naval men, especially those who have shown their ability and courage through gallant service. Heretofore the army has been practically closed to Christian work and influence though not a few of its highest officers are Christians and known as such. Now all this has changed. With government sanction the Y. M. C. A. was allowed to send a few men to the front, it being distinctly understood by all parties that the men and work were on trial.

Speedily the work commended itself to the officers and men on the ground. Invitations came from different officers, permission was granted to establish work in many new centers, and all the men that could be obtained were put into this army work. Mistakes may be made but the general position now gained will never be wholly lost. Just what its official relation to the army will be time alone can tell but hereafter, wherever there is an army barrackss there will be established a branch of the Y. M. C. A. cordially welcomed and aided by the government officials and officers. One such permanent branch is now being established in Port Arthur.

All this means the breaking down of prejudice, the bringing of practical Christian living close to the hearts and lives of the people throughout the whole country, the revealing of Christ and his teaching to all the people in a way in which general missionary work could

hardly do it. Thus is one of great aims of mission work accomplished, the influence of which is already being felt in all forms of mission work.

In the second place the war has brought the Christian and non-Christian into close touch and sympathy with each other in a way that nothing else could. A touch of work as well as a touch of sorrow makes the whole world kin and when a common work and a common sorrow come together, but they bring the people more closely into sympathy and fellowship with each other.

Christians and non-Christians have joined heartily and earnestly in work for the soldiers going to the front and for the wounded returning to the hospitals in all parts of the country. In this way acquaintances have been formed which years of living near each other never could have brought about. The lives and influence of the missionaries have broadened and the non-Christians have been brought into close, personal, and sympathetic touch with the Christians. This has been deepened by the sharing of a common sorrow. Christians and non-Chritians have shared in the same funeral service and gathered around the same grave. What this drawing together of the Christians and non-Christians will mean only the years to come can fully reveal but the benefit to mission and Christian work arising from it can scarcely be over-estimated.

Other benefits to the work have come in a deepening seriousness on the part of the people and an eagerness to hear and learn about Christian teaching. Requests for addresses, talks, and conferences have been more than could be met. The audiences also have shown a great increase in numbers and interest.

Further, the war has broadened as well as deepened the lives of the people. So many Russian prisoners have been brought to Japan that all classes of people have been brought into close touch with another nation which cannot help re-acting on both nations. Japanese Christians are praying for suffering Russians and Russian prisoners are contributing from their scanty funds to the Christian work in Japan.

Thus while we deplore the war and the great loss of life, the sorrow and intense suffering which it causes, there still arises from it much that will prove of permanent value and benefit to mission work and the progress of Christian truth in Japan. All progress in every branch of life comes largely through struggle and suffering and this is just what is happening in Japan to-day. A nation is being developed and the half

century of preparation which it has passed through is now coming to fruitage.

Special Forms of Work.—Various are the forms of work to which the war has given rise. The girls in the schools, while carrying on all of their usual work, have yet given time freely for knitting bands and making comfort bags for the soldiers, pasting scrap-books, and making other things which might help to while away weary hours for the wounded soldiers. Groups of girls have gone to the different railroad stations, when the troop-trains have passed through, carrying flowers, pamphlets, and other simple gifts.

More than all, perhaps, should be mentioned the singing of the girls, from the different girls' schools at the railroad stations and in the hospitals. Nothing has seemed to give greater pleasure to the soldiers than this singing of the girls in small groups or large companies. It has been one of the most effective ways of showing interest for and sympathy with the men. The girls have also sung at concerts given for the benefit of the wounded soldiers and the needy families of soldiers.

Many of the missionaries have joined the Red Cross Society and personally aided at the railroad stations in caring for the men going to the front and the train loads of returning wounded, In this way many opportunities have arisen for brief but earnest and personal talks.

With the cordial permission of the authorities work has been carried on in many of the hospitals. Here the gramophone and magic lantern have been brought into constant service, formal addresses and talks given and individual visitation of the wounded has been possible with quiet, personal talks with great numbers of the men. There has also been a large distribution of pamphlets and Bible portions, for the men are eager and glad to receive them.

Thus has the war modified and directed much of the mission work of the past year, some of it being of a temporary but much of it of a permanent nature.

THE GENERAL EVANGELISTIC WORK.

Discouraging Features.—In the general evangelistic work the great discouraging feature lies in the lack of men and means to carry

forward the work that was once well in hand and giving great promise of success. One station has been practically closed, efforts being made to carry on the work by touring from another station two day's journey distant. At the time of writing this report the possibility of locating families in this station seems more than doubtful and if the work is continued at all it will probably be done as it has been in the past year. This not only means little or no growth in the work in that station but probably a slow losing of the ground once gained. This in a region where no other protestant missionary society is carrying on work.

The great lack of men has caused the changing of location of other members of the mission. This has meant the taking of a family from a field with which it was thoroughly familiar and putting it in a new and strange field. Such a change means a great loss to the work, a loss which can hardly be over-estimated for the social ties and acquaintances of years are broken and the forming of new ones in the new field takes time. Further, an entire re-adjustment of work, in both stations affected, must be made and this means a loss to the work. In the present instance some of the work which had been carried forward with promise has had to be abandoned.

In two different churches unfortunate dissensions have arisen. In one instance this was due to the lack of a pastor and the over-zeal of one from another denomination. The result has been a dividing of the church into two parts and instead of one strong church there are two weak churches. However, in time they may both grow into strong churches and thus good may come out of seeming ill. In the other instance there seems to have arisen some personal dissensions among the members of the church resulting in two groups of Christians both asking aid from the mission. It is earnestly hoped that the two groups may speedily be united forming one strong, self-supporting church.

Other discouraging features arise from the changing conditions that Japan is passing through. A large proportion of the Christians are young people who have not settled down to their life work. Students graduate from the schools and go to distant cities. Young men leave their country homes and go into the cities. In both instances they are very negligent about taking their church letters and uniting with the church in their new place of residence. This, together with the great shifting of population that is going on throughout all Japan, accounts, in large measure, for the great number of absent members on the

church rolls. It is to be feared that many of these absent members become a permanent loss to the Christian work.

There is still, in some places, a little social ostracism of the Christian and some open opposition to Christian teaching. One school principal, at least, uses the authority of his position to keep the children from the Sunday Schools and his efforts are fairly successful.

Encouraging Features.—In spite of these discouraging features, however, the work has gone steadily forward and the past year has witnessed a larger number of baptisms and actual accessions to the churches than any year in the past decade. This has been noticeable in many individual churches. One small church received eighty-two new members, fifty-four of them being on profession of faith. At the morning service this church has been crowded and two rooms have been added to the building to meet the needs of the growing work. This growth has chiefly resulted from having a settled pastor of great earnestness and zeal. Other churches have also made substantial gains in the addition of members on profession of faith, these gains being chiefly in the city churches and here in those which have settled pastors. The attitude toward Christianity is perceptibly growing more favorable and an increasing desire to study Christian teaching is becoming manifest.

This change of attitude has been especially shown in the cordial welcome given by non-Christians, as well as by the Christians, where there has been a change of location on the part of the members of the mission. It is also shown in the great interest taken in music. The first large edition of the new hymnal, published during the year, has been completely exhausted and another large edition is being prepared. In several churches singing classes have been formed that have been well attended. A wide field of work has here been opened which offers large opportunities for Christian service.

Special evangelistic services have been held with gratifying results. Bible classes, mother's meetings, and other forms of evangelistic work have been carried on as usual. One new church building has been started and one has been completed and dedicated free of debt.

Another specially encouraging feature of the work must not be omitted. It is the evangelistic movement that has grown up and been carried forward by the Kumiai Churches themselves independently of the mission. This has taken the form of the Kumiai pastors going two

by two to all of the places where there are small groups of Kumiai Christians and holding special preaching services. It has been also extended to Korea and steps taken to establish a permanent work in that country. Nothing could be more encouraging than to see the Japanese themselves earnestly taking up this evangelistic work. It is one of the best indications of the progress of Christian truth in Japan.

THE EDUCATIONAL WORK.

The condition of all the educational work with which the mission is connected is specially gratifying, with the exception of one instance mentioned later. It was feared that the war would cause the withdrawal of pupils, more particularly in the girl's schools, as the increased cost of living might make it impossible for the parents to continue the education of all their children. But instead of there being a decrease in attendance there has been an actual increase and the schools have all that they can provide for. In one instance a department has been given up in order to make room for students of higher departments.

The Theological School.—In this school, a branch of the Doshisha, thirty men have been enrolled, the largest number for many years. The school has received recognition from the government as a "Special School" which means that the school receives the same privileges of exemption from army service that is accorded to government schools. This provision applies only to the regular students who are graduates of schools classed as at least the equivalent of middle school grade. For the first time in twenty years no distinction is made between English and Japanese but all are taught in their native tongue. In connection with the Theological School it may be well to mention the ordination of Prof. Hino, the first man to be ordained by the Kumiai (Congregational) Church for other than direct pastoral work.

The Bible School.—There have been seventeen students in the Woman's Bible School but no graduations for the year, the latter being due to the absence of one of the teachers which has made it impossible to give the full course of study. Next year there will be a large class to graduate. During the past year the students have had the advantage of lessons in singing and organ-playing in Kobe College.

The Kindergarten Training School.—This School has been kept running with the aid of Rev. Mr. Harada of the Kobe Church but his other work will probably make this impossible in the future. The loss of Miss Howe has been a severe blow to the school but hopes of her return are still entertained. Without her return, or the speedy finding of some one to take her place, the outlook for the school becomes very problematical. The Kindergarten connected with the Training School has sixty-four members, all that can be accomodated, and over one hundred little tots on the waiting list.

The three other kindergartens connected with the mission have likewise all the children that they can accomodate and more on waiting lists. The work for the past year has been carried forward successfully and the opportunities for the work are limited only by the lack of means and equipment.

The Baikwa Girls' School.—This school has had a specially good year. Two additions have been made to the teaching force and all the students that the school can accomodate have been enrolled. There have been so many applications for admission to the higher departments that what has been classed as the primary department has had to be discontinued to make room for the older students. This has caused great sorrow to the students and families affected but it was the only course possible under the circumstances. The girls of this school raised ten dollars for the Child Memorial School in China.

Kobe College.—The continued growth of Kobe College has given rise to many serious questions as to the location of the school and the new buildings that are urgently needed. These questions call for immediate solution. The past year has seen the largest enrollment in the history of the school with the exception of one term when a new class was taken in before the graduating class was sent out. For one reason and another the past year has seen a number of changes in the teaching force of the school. Re-inforcements are urgently needed for the proper carrying on of the teaching work. Several small buildings have been removed and rebuilt and other improvements made. The past year has seen the largest single gift from a Japanese source. It was a legacy of two thousand five hundred dollars from a gentleman, not a Christian, whose three daughters had been students in the school. The interest of this money is to be used for the aid of needy students. The past year has also seen the largest single gift from an American

source, the sum of twenty-eight thousand dollars having been received for new buildings and equipment.

The Doshisha Girls' School.—This school has been crowded. The beds, or rather the heavy comforters laid on the floor which correspond to our beds, fill all the dormitory rooms. One end of each bed has to be rolled up to make room for the student to dress and undress on rising and retiring. There is but one piano available for music lessons and practice for thirteen girls, to say nothing of opportunity for the teacher to practice. Twenty-five pupils get along as best they can on old and poor baby-organs. The school sadly needs an increase in its musical equipment. In fact better musical equipment is badly needed in all branches of the work.

The Doshisha.—The Doshisha is rapidly regaining the strength and influence it had fifteen years ago. Two of its departments have already been spoken of above,—the Theological School and the Girls' School. In the Academy three hundred and fifty-four students have been enrolled, practically all that can be accomodated. Three of the classes have to be divided into divisions with forty and fifty boys in a division, more than one teacher can comfortably handle. Several changes have taken place in the teaching force which, for the most part, have been for the betterment of the school. One change of teachers has taken place in the English section which has, temporarily at least, weakened the department but altogether the academy has more than held its own and made good progress.

What is practically a college department in the Doshisha has been established and thoroughly organised. It is known as the Doshisha Senmon Gakko. Four men were graduated last March and forty-two men enrolled at the beginning of the new year. The prospects for the continued growth and success of the department are very bright.

WORK ALONG SOCIAL LINES.

But one other department of mission work remains to be considered,—it is that which touches more closely on the social side of the people. Much of this work is chiefly under Japanese management but is closely shared by many members of the mission.

In this connection mention should be made of the Okayama Orphanage. This institution has steadily grown until it has reached a large sphere of usefulness and world-wide recognition. It is one of the four or five orphanages, all of them under Christian management, which the government has selected as the institutions to which the orphans of soldiers shall be sent. The Okayama Orphanage has also received Imperial recognition, being the first distinctly Christian institution to receive a gift from the Emperor. This was a gift of one thousand dollars which was later followed by a promise from the Emperor and Empress of five hundred dollars a year for ten years. The institution is in great need of an endowment to meet its growing expenses. During the past year three hundred and fifteen children have been cared for and the number is constantly increasing owing to the war.

In Okayama, also, there is the work in the Hanabatake District, one of the poorest sections of the city. Here two new buildings have been built to meet the growing needs of the work. On one of these is a considerable debt which it is hoped may be cleared off during the coming year. A school for children is carried on, aid being given by normal students who are glad of this opportunity of practice in teaching. A free dispensary has been established to which several chemists and physicians freely give their services at stated times during the week. A concert, given to furnish supplies for this department, received generous help from Christians and non-Christians alike and thus a full year's supplies were obtained. The people of the district were somewhat offended by a few of the statements made in a pamphlet written and privately circulated with the object of arousing interest in and procuring gifts for the work. The pamphlets were recovered as far as possible and publicly burned. Thus the good feeling of the people was restored.

In Matsuyama the Factory Girls, Home has become fully established in its new house. The new house is quite unlike the other houses in which the factory girls are lodged. It has raised the entire tone and surroundings of the girls and brought about a marked improvement in their health. All the real estate in the neighborhood has risen in price as a direct result of the improvement of the neighborhood caused by the Girls' Home. Some of the Russian prisoners quartered in Matsuyama have become much interested in the Home and made contributions to it. An enlargement of the Home is greatly needed.

Besides these forms of social work there are many others in which

the members of the mission are deeply interested and through which they are doing a great deal for the uplifting of all classes of society. There are also many other ways in which the missionaries come into close touch with the people, as, for instance, in cooking classes which are conducted by several of the ladies in the different stations.

MINOR ITEMS OF INTEREST.

In concluding the main body of this report the editor would present a few items which may be of interest to those closely connected with the mission and its work.

Several small pamphlets have been published by different members of the mission among which may be mentioned,—"A SYMBOL OF LOVE", written for distribution among the soldiers in the Red Cross Hospitals; a "RED CROSS BOOKLET", written with similar intent; and "FLAGEOLET", a little pamphlet published for the aid of those learning to play the flageolet. The first edition of the new hymn book has been published and entirely sold. A new edition is now being gotten out. A revised edition of the commentary on the Synoptic Gospels has been published and the work on the Gospel of John is progressing favorably. "MORNING LIGHT" and "MISSION NEWS" have been published as usual.

One of the single ladies has married and withdrawn from immediate membership in the mission. Two others have become engaged, one of whom will withdraw from the mission. Two of the young men have become engaged, which means the welcome addition of two new homes to the mission circle.

For the first time since the opening of the Niigata Station the Woman's Board has been unrepresented in that field.

Two families, two women, and one man have returned to America on furloughs. One new family and one new man have come to Japan and one family, one woman, and one man have returned from their furloughs.

KUMIAI CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES.

INDEPENDENT AND NOT AIDED BY THE MISSION.

Year, January 1st, 1904—December 31st, 1904.

Number of Churches.	Total Membership.	Resident Membership.	Adult Baptisms.	Average attendance at Sunday School.	Amt. in *yen* raised by Christians.
		KŌBE DISTRICT.			
4	1305	773	94	515	11,045.37
		KYŌTO DISTRICT.			
9	1497	962	165	433	5,099.13
		MAEBASHI DISTRICT.			
6	1100	501	47	294	2,548.70
		MATSUYAMA DISTRICT.			
5	612	405	55	435	2,011.83
		MIYAZAKI DISTRICT.			
6	377	212	39	140	1,262.70
		NIIGATA DISTRICT.			
1	76	54	17	71	313.77
		OKAYAMA DISTRICT.			
6	976	600	64	396	2,993.71
		OSAKA DISTRICT.			
6	1515	872	96	569	6,305.85
		SAPPORO DISTRICT.			
4	305	209	12	125	1,245.27
		TŌKYŌ DISTRICT.			
6	1257	689	170	484	5,262.60
		TOTTORI DISTRICT.			
1	76	50	3	57	510.93
54	9096	5327	762	3519	38,599.86

KUMIAI CHURCHES AND PREACHING PLACES.

AIDED BY THE MISSION.

January 1st, 1904—December 31st, 1904.

Number of Churches and Preaching Places.	Total Membership.	Resident Membership.	Adult Baptisms.	Average attendance at Sunday School.	Amt. in *yen* raised by Christians.	Amt. in *yen* granted by Mission.
			KŌBE DISTRICT.			
9	381	231	15	203	1,357.29	910.93
			KYŌTO DISTRICT.			
9	321	229	53	558	964.13	2021.90
			MAEBASHI DISTRICT.			
7	405	202	18	127	506.66	632.00
			MATSUYAMA DISTRICT.			
8	199	144	11	325	377.43	1,632.00
			MIYAZAKI DISTRICT.			
8	147	98	18	252	701.31	1,760.21
			NIIGATA DISTRICT.			
7	80	49	2	148	303.23	1,770.00
			OKAYAMA DISTRICT.			
13	303	222	34	511	1,236.73	961.00
			OSAKA DISTRICT.			
4	216	102	14	146	399.00	1,164.00
			SAPPORO DISTRICT.			
5	298	215	27	154	1,179.32	1,277.00
			SENDAI DISTRICT.			
11	431	268	78	480	1,264.37	1,278.49
			TOTTORI DISTRICT.			
2	31	26	1	30	60.85	744.00
83	2812	1786	271	2934	8,350.32	14,151.53

MEMBERS OF THE JAPAN MISSION.

MAY 1st, 1905.

KOBE.—John L. Atkinson, D.D. (ordained), Mrs. Caroline G. Atkinson, Miss Susan A. Searle, Miss Mary A. Holbrook, M.D., Miss Elizabeth Torrey, Miss Charlotte B. DeForest, Miss Olive S. Hoyt, Miss Martha J. Barrows, Miss Eliza Talcott, Miss Gertrude Cozad.

KYOTO.—Dwight W. Learned, D.D., Otis Cary, D.D., Morton D. Dunning, Charles M. Warren, Frank A. Lombard, (ordained), Mrs. Florence H. Learned, Mrs. Ellen M. Cary, Mrs. Mary W. Dunning, Miss Mary F. Denton.

MAIBASHI.—Hilton Pedley (ordained), Mrs. Martha J. Pedley.

MATSUYAMA.—Horatio B. Newell (ordained), Mrs. Jane C. Newell, Miss H. Frances Parmelee.

MIYAZAKI.—C. Burnell Olds (ordained), Mrs. Genevieve D. Olds, Miss Julia A. E. Gulick.

NIIGATA.—William L. Curtis, Edward S. Cobb, (ordained), Mrs. Gertrude B. Curtis, Mrs. Florence B. Cobb.

OKAYAMA.—James H. Pettee, D.D., Henry J. Bennett, (ordained), Mrs. Isabella W. Pettee, Miss Alice P. Adams, Miss Mary E. Wainwright.

OSAKA.—Wallace Taylor, M.D., George Allchin, (ordained), Mrs. Nellie M. Allchin, Miss Lucy E. Case, Miss Abby M. Colby, Miss Mary B. Daniels.

SAPPORO.—George M. Rowland, D.D. (ordained), Mrs. Helen A. Rowland, Miss Adelaide Daughaday.

SENDAI.—John H. DeForest, D.D. (ordained), Mrs. Sarah E. DeForest, Miss Annie H. Bradshaw.

TOKYO.—D. Crosby Greene, D.D. (ordained), Mrs. Mary J. Greene.

TSUYAMA.—(part of Okayama field),—Schuyler S. White (ordained), Mrs. Ida M. White.

IN AMERICA.—Jerome D. Davis, D.D., Sidney L. Gulick, D.D., Samuel C. Bartlett, Cyrus A. Clark, Arthur W. Stanford, (ordained), Mrs. Frances H. Davis, Mrs. Cara M. Gulick, Mrs. Fanny S. Bartlett, Mrs. Harriett G. Clark, Mrs. Jennie P. Stanford, Mrs. Agnes D. Gordon, Mrs. Mary F. Taylor, Miss Cornelia Judson.

ON THE WAY TO AMERICA.—Enoch F. Bell (ordained), Mrs. Anna E. Bell, Miss Fanny E. Griswold.

Associated with the Mission,—Kyoto.—D. I. Grover, Miss Grace W. Learned; Kobe.—Miss Ada B. Chandler, Miss Cora Goodman.

THE ANNUAL MISSION MEETING.

(Arima, May 25-31.)

For the first time in twenty seven years, the Annual Meeting of the American Board was held in Arima, beginning Thursday evening May 25th, and closing Wednesday noon, May 31th. In addition to the members of the Mission, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Davis, Miss Ward, and Miss Jones were present as guests of the Mission. For many years, the annual meeting has been held in Kōbe, early in July. While the change of time and place of meeting made it inconvenient for those who were teaching in the Doshisha and in Kōbe College, Arima is much cooler than Kōbe and the general opinion seemed to be that the change was a good one. Arima is a small village, about nine miles in a straight line from Kōbe, and is fourteen hundred feet above the level of the sea. It is well known for its mineral springs, and the scenery, though not remarkable, is good. In the summer a good many foreign guests come to the village and there are two or three hotels, with accommodations for foreign guests. Arrangements had been made beforehand with the Sugimoto Hotel for room and board, and through the courtesy of the foreign church committee, the meetings were held in the church building. The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. W. L. Curtis, Thursday evening, and the first meeting was spent in organising, and hearing reports of various committees. One of the important questions which came up in the meeting was the question of moving Kobe College. The present quarters are very crowded and if the school is to grow and keep pace with the Government schools, the plant needs to be considerable enlarged. Two plans were suggested, either to move the College to some place outside of Kōbe, where there is more room for the buildings which are so much needed, or to buy land adjacent to the present college grounds, and erect the necessary buildings there. The question was so difficult and complicated that it was finally left with the incoming Kobe College Committee. This committee consists of members of the Mission from Tokyō, Kyōto, Ōsaka, Kōbe, and Matsuyama.

The question of the location of Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett, Mr. Warren,

and Mr. Bennett required some discussion in committee meeting, but it was finally decided by the committee and then by the Mission that Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett should be asked to go to Sapporo, Mr. Warren to Matsuyama, and that Mr. Bennett remain in Okayama.

At one of the meetings, Mr. Miyagawa and Mr. Osada were present as delegates of the Japanese Congregational churches, to present several matters before the Mission. One of these related to the publishing of statistics in the Mission records. It has been the custom to publish statistics of the Japanese Congregational churches in the records together with the statistics of the Mission, it being very difficult in some cases to separate the two. The wish of the churches is that these may be published in such a way that there will be a distinction between the work of the Mission and that of the churches. This matter was left to a committee of three who were to consult with the delegates from the churches about the matter. Another question suggested by the delegates was that of bringing the Japanese churches to self-support, and the Mission was asked to co-operate with them in bringing this about.

At the close of every morning session, there was a devotional meeting, at which reports from some of the stations were given. Usually two stations were heard from at each meeting, and the reports given this year seemed to be unusually interesting. At the morning session on Friday, Dr. DeForest gave an account of his visit to Manchuria, under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, and of the work that the Association is doing there for the soldiers. He spoke especially of the kindness of the Japanese officials, and of the way in which everything was so carefully arranged for him, and he considers it the privilege of a lifetime to have been allowed to go there. On Friday night the annual Church-meeting was held and on Saturday night the usual entertainment was given. In past years friends from Kobe have kindly helped in the entertainment, but this year the committee had to depend almost entirely on members of the Mission.

The sermon on Sunday was preached by Mr. Olds, after which Mr. and Mrs. Pedley's youngest child, Catherine, received baptism. On Sunday afternoon the children of the Mission had their Christian Endeavor Meeting, Alice Cary being the leader. The number of children present was smaller than usual, but the meeting was a very good one.

The meeting adjourned Wednesday noon, after voting to have the next meeting in Arima.

H. J. BENNETT.

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